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Dr. SYED TAJUDDIN :—" May I know, Sir, who was responsible for such a state of things? Should not the Government see that before payment is made precautions have been taken? "

The Hon. Sri C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI :—" I will enquire about it."

Investments in the Central Land Mortgage Bank by the co-operative societies.

* 108 Q.—Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. **the Minister for Food be pleased to state—**

(a) whether the Registrar of Co-operative Societies has been permitted to advise the co-operative societies to find investment in the debentures of the Central Land Mortgage Bank; and

(b) whether, in view of principles of finance involved in investing short-term deposits or borrowings in long-term investment and in view of the strong difference in views on this held by prominent co-operators, the Government have considered the desirability of referring the question to the Reserve Bank of India for their opinion?

The Hon. Sri J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (b) The answer is in the negative."

Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, when there is such a keen difference of opinion expressed by prominent co-operators who are well-versed in the matter of co-operative finance, should not Government refer the matter to an expert authority like the Reserve Bank of India before allowing the opinion of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies to prevail? " 2–45 p.m.

The Hon. Sri J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" The whole question was raised by the Provincial Co-operative Bank and after some correspondence between that Bank and the Registrar of Co-operative Societies the correspondence was closed because the Registrar satisfied the points raised by the President in regard to the advisability of investment in Land Mortgage Banks. So, no necessity was felt to refer the matter to the Reserve Bank of India."

Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I take it that the information of the Government is that all the criticisms were answered by the Registrar to the satisfaction of the President, and is that on record? "

The Hon. Sri J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" Yes, Sir. At least the question was not raised afterwards, and so it was understood that no further points were in dispute. Therefore it was considered that the matter was closed."

Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Are the Government aware that further discussions were not pursued because the Government refused to move in the matter? "

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THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" Yes, Sir. Because it is a thing in which the matter was proved satisfactorily. So, as far as this Government are concerned, I do not see why the matter should be pursued further."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Is it correct finance to find for short-term deposits investment in long-term investments? So, is there not a *prima facie* case for referring this matter to an expert body like the Reserve Bank of India? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" The whole matter arose on account of financial stringency because it was difficult to find the necessary funds in the market for the Land Mortgage Bank. So, this method was resorted to, and finally when the necessary funds were found on account of this arrangement, it was felt that there was no necessity to pursue the matter any further."

Transport of fish between Shoranur and Kozhikode

* 109 Q.—DR. P. S. SRINIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact—

(i) that large quantities of fish are being sent by trains from stations between Shoranur and Kozhikode ; and

(ii) that passengers travelling by trains and people living near the railway stations are suffering on account of the bad odour emanating from the parcels ; and

(*b*) whether the State Government would suggest to the Central Government that fish parcels should be sent only in refrigerator vans and not in ordinary vans, wherefrom a lot of bad smell emanates?

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" (*a*) (i) Yes. (ii) Fresh fish does not emanate any bad odour. Occasionally some slight smell might emanate from the fish parcels, but it will not be such as to cause discomfort to the passengers or the people around.

" (*b*) The railway authorities are already running refrigerated railway vans for the transport of fish from Mettur Dam to Madras and they have been requested to charge concessional rates so that fish could be transported regularly to Madras by these vans and sold at economic rates to the public. Extension of this facility to other places will be considered if the railways agree to charge concessional rates."

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN :—" Sir, is not the fish carried in trains amidst blocks of ice? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" Yes, they are only sent in that way. Still, sometimes, even when so sent, foul smell emanates."